

Bay Counties nor the Northern California section, but of the whole State and of every physician in the State. If each individual member will do his best, this can easily be done; but if he keeps his ideas and his "kicks" to himself, or confides them only to his own circle of friends, the JOURNAL cannot know of, or profit by them. The editor's position is by no means an easy one, and he needs all the help that can be given him. If the County Societies will not see to it that reports of their meetings are sent in, then they should not blame the JOURNAL nor the editor for failing to publish such reports. Each member must take to himself some of the responsibility, and some of the credit or blame.

A year's work under its new Constitution and By-laws has shown where certain changes are imperatively necessary to the proper and successful carrying out of the Society's work in harmony with the American Medical Association. The existence of "members at large" is in conflict with the spirit, if not, indeed, with the law of the A. M. A., and all such "members at large" should be obliged to join their County Societies. It is the County Society that is the fundamental unit of organization—properly so—and all licensed and reputable physicians should belong to this fundamental organization. Anything other than this would be as inconsistent as permitting a man becoming a member of the Knights Templars without being a member of a "blue lodge." The illustration cited is further apropos, for the whole plan of reorganization of the A. M. A. is merely an adoption of the general fraternal society plan. Therefore, we would say to all members at large, "Join your County Society, or the County Society nearest to your home, if there is none in your own county."

There is, or was a short time ago, at least one man in the world who believed, and strenuously maintained in argument, that the world is flat and not round. He was really not so great an ignoramus as one would at first think, for he simply was an extreme type of a large class which it is difficult to educate. It would seem, that, no matter what strides preventive medicine may make, and no matter what discoveries are made in the line of disease origin and transmission, there are always enough people who think the world is flat, to upset the work of scientific progress in sanitation and life conservation. A terrible illustration has recently been furnished by Ithaca, New York, an illustration in which each sentence was punctuated with a death. At Ithaca, and

almost always, in fact, where such tragedies occur, we find ignorance and criminal carelessness going hand in hand in the seductive pursuit of money. Unfortunately, it is seldom or never either the ignorant or the criminals who suffer; the innocent pay the price of death invariably exacted.

A notable departure from the classical type of annual addresses occurred at the 1903 meeting of the State Society at Santa Barbara. The President's address deals largely with medical legislation and its various bearings, and is not a long statement of historical episodes. The Address on Medicine deals with a single class of diseases or infections, and covers the ground very fully and rationally. The Address on Surgery, like the other, is also confined to a single subject, which is fully treated. The tendency to treat of a single subject or class, in annual addresses, is certainly a welcome innovation; but the personal opinion or attitude of the individual writer of the address should be as little in evidence as possible. Such addresses are in the nature of editorial utterances and should not be confined to the opinions of a single individual. This is not a criticism of this year's addresses, but simply calls attention to a possible danger.

The fact to which attention is called in the Address on Medicine, read at the Santa Barbara meeting of the Society, and printed elsewhere in the JOURNAL, that the variety of the clinical material of the Pacific Coast has increased, and probably will increase, is decidedly more important than many will, at first glance, believe. Numerous oriental diseases have already appeared, and one or two have attracted considerable attention. Most of these oriental diseases have received comparatively little study or attention at the hands of American physicians, and consequently many such cases are not recognized when they first appear in our country. It certainly is exceedingly important that the physicians of the Pacific Coast should devote some time and study to the diseases of the Orient that are liable to be introduced through our developing trade with the Far East.

The absurdity of the situation that would result from an attempt to provide absolutely exclusive legislation against tuberculosis entering the State is well and clearly illustrated in a paper by Dr. Bridge, read at the State Society's recent session. It is not by restrictive and sumptuary legislation that this and numerous other urgent questions may

SANTA BARBARA ADDRESSES.

NEW CLINICAL COAST MATERIAL.

RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION.